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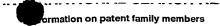
(54) Title: COATED SHERICAL SEAMLESS FILLED CAPSULES

(57) Abstract: Described is a spherical coated capsule comprising (a) a coating-free capsule having (i) a liquid or viscous core and (ii) a seamless solid shell surrounding this core, and (b) a seamless, solid coating surrounding said coating-free capsule, wherein the diameter of the coated capsule is in the range of 5 - 9 mm, - the solid coating comprises at least one sugar or sugar-alcohol in an amount from about 30 - 90% (m/m), based on the total mass of the coated capsule, - the diameter of the coating-free capsule is in the range of 3 - 7 mm, the thickness of the shell of said coating-free capsule is in the range of 20 - 200 µm, - the ratio of shell thickness to diameter of said coating-free capsule is in the range of 0.004 - 0.04, - the shell of said coating-free capsule contains 70 - 90% (m/m) gelatine or alginate and 10 - 30% (m/m) plasticiser, based on the solids content of said shell, and - the core has a flavouring content in the range of 1 - 100% (m/m), based on the total mass of the core. Further described is a method for preparing such capsule.





A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B01J13/04 R011 B01J13/22 A23L1/22 A23P1/04 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) A23P IPC 7 B01J A23L Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Category ° EP 0 778 083 A (FREUNT IND CO LTD) 1-17 Α 11 June 1997 (1997-06-11) column 9, line 6 - column 9, line 10; figures 1,2; examples 1,2 1-16US 6 200 603 B1 (HALE KATE ET AL) Α 13 March 2001 (2001-03-13) cited in the application claims 1-8 1 - 16WO 91/17821 A (DANOCHEMO AS) Α 28 November 1991 (1991-11-28) the whole document 1-17 Α US 6 238 690 B1 (GLENN BLAKE HENDERSON ET AL) 29 May 2001 (2001-05-29) the whole document Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Special categories of cited documents: *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docudocument referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 28/09/2004 20 September 2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Willsher, C





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